

CHRISTOPHER S. PORRINO
ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY
Division of Law
124 Halsey Street, 5th Floor
P.O. Box 45029
Newark, New Jersey 07101
Attorney for the State Board of Nursing

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF	:	Administrative Action
	:	
	:	
ALYCIA KARTASHEFF DOTRO, RN	:	
License # 26NO 12052400	:	FINAL ORDER
	:	OF DISCIPLINE
	:	
TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE	:	
STATE OF NEW JERSEY	:	

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and upon which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent is a registered professional nurse in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.

2. On or about March 23, 2013, Respondent engaged in conduct which led to her being charged in the City of Trenton with possession of marijuana and use or possession of drug paraphernalia. The matter has not yet been adjudicated.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-22(f), the Board may order any person, as a condition for continued licensure, to submit to evaluation and monitoring to ascertain whether that licensee's continued practice may jeopardize the safety and welfare of the public. Respondent's arrest, and the fact that this matter has not been resolved to date and does not appear as if it will be resolved to date, provides a sufficient basis for the Board to order respondent to undergo evaluation and monitoring.

DISCUSSION

A Provisional Order of Discipline (POD) was filed on February 11, 2016 based upon a criminal charge of possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. The POD seeks a

comprehensive mental health and substance abuse evaluation under the auspices of the Board's designated intervention program the Recovery and Monitoring Program (a RAMP evaluation).

Ms. Dotro responded to the POD and maintains her innocence regarding the criminal charges. She argues that she is not an addict and expressed an unwillingness to enroll in a program that she believes is meant for individuals with an addiction. What the POD seeks, however, is not treatment for an addiction, but merely enrollment and participation for the purpose of undergoing a comprehensive mental health and substance abuse evaluation. Because of the comprehensive nature of the evaluation, enrollment and participation would be required for 90 days. Ms. Dotro indicates that she would be willing to undergo random drug tests. She has gone for her own self-scheduled 10 panel drug screen and submitted the negative results for the Board's review. Obviously, Ms. Dotro's drug test was not random. RAMP is the Board's designated entity to perform comprehensive evaluations which include 90 days of monitoring with random drug screens.

Regarding the criminal charges, Ms. Dotro states that they are still pending. She submitted search and seizure receipt forms indicating that pipes (drug paraphernalia) were seized from her home, and a portion of the indictment transcript

indicating that marijuana seeds and three marijuana pipes were found amongst Ms. Dotro's belongings and personal effects on her desk in her home office/computer room.

The criminal drug-related charges filed against Ms. Dotro raise the issue of drug use by this nurse. An evaluation is warranted to ascertain whether Ms. Dotro's continued practice may jeopardize the safety and welfare of the public.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 18 day of August, 2016,
ORDERED that:

1. Respondent is hereby ordered to enroll in the Recovery and Monitoring Program of New Jersey (RAMP), the Board's designated monitoring agency, to undergo a comprehensive mental health and substance use evaluation and monitoring for a minimum period of 90 days, to ascertain whether Respondent's continued practice may jeopardize the public safety and welfare. Respondent shall enroll in RAMP within thirty (30) days of the service of a filed Final Order of Discipline in this matter.

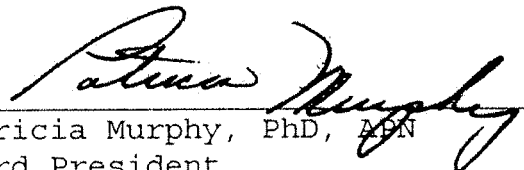
2. Respondent shall enroll in RAMP at her own expense.

3. Enrollment in RAMP shall require Respondent to waive confidentiality with respect to Respondent and RAMP, and Respondent and the Board, so that RAMP may provide the Board with information concerning Respondent's mental health and

substance use and whether Respondent remains safe to practice.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:


Patricia Murphy, PhD, APRN
Board President